

## **Work Zone Speed Limits**

Effective: August 14, 1996

## **UDOT 06C-61**

Revised: August 24, 2005

### **Purpose**

The purpose of this policy is to define the proper process for the establishment of temporary regulatory speed limits in work zones on all state highways.

### **Policy**

Existing speed limits confirmed by a Traffic Engineering Order (TEO) shall remain in effect through work zones on state highways except where an unusual or serious hazard would be created by the retention of the existing speed limits. When such a condition occurs, the speed limit may be temporarily reduced 10 MPH on roads greater than or equal to 60 MPH, or 5 MPH on roads less than 60 MPH.

When temporary conditions occur regulatory speed changes shall only be used during impacted times and in impacted areas as shown in the option below:

1. A temporary regulatory speed limit may be set by the Region Director, after consultation with the Region Traffic Engineer when conditions experienced in the field by either maintenance or construction work forces may create a hazard. The temporary regulatory speed limit shall be in effect no longer than 10-calendar days. A one-time 10-calendar day extension of the temporary regulatory speed limit may be granted by the Region Director, after consultation with the Region Traffic Engineer. If the temporary regulatory speed limit, established by the Region Director, is to stay in effect longer than 20-calendar days, a formally approved TEO will be required from the Division of Traffic and Safety.
2. A temporary regulatory speed limit, within a project, may be established as a part of the traffic control plan with a formally approved TEO from the Division of Traffic and Safety. Temporary regulatory speed limit signs shall not be erected until all appropriate work zone signs have been placed in accordance with the approved traffic control plans.

### **Definitions**

**Traffic Engineering Order (TEO)**

A Traffic Engineering Order (TEO) is a document that specifies the authority to establish specific traffic regulations pertaining to directional movements, speed limits, parking restrictions, and railroad grade crossing exemptions. See Policy UDOT 06C-05 for further information regarding TEOs.

## Procedures

### Existing Work Zones

UDOT 06C-61.1

**Responsibility:** Resident Engineer/Construction/Maintenance Supervisor/Permits Officer

### Actions

1. Determines the need for a temporary regulatory speed limit.
2. Prepares recommendation for all justified, temporary regulatory speed limit, ensuring all alternatives including positive protection have been considered, and submits it to the Region Traffic Engineer for consideration.

**Responsibility:** Region Traffic Engineer

3. Considers recommendations and submit to the Region Director with comments.

**Responsibility:** Region Director

4. Considers recommendation together with comments of Region Traffic Engineer and approves request if such action is determined to be appropriate. Said approval shall be for a 10 calendar day period.

**Responsibility:** Resident Engineer/Construction/Maintenance Supervisor/Permits Officer

5. Shall determine impacted areas and impacted times and make any signing changes that are necessary. This may require removing or covering any sign that is not appropriate or consistent with the construction impact.

**Responsibility:** Region Traffic Engineer

6. Periodically reviews work zone with temporary regulatory speed limit to make sure conditions are acceptable. Unacceptable conditions may require changing the temporary regulatory speed limit. Also determines if a one-time 10-calendar day extension to the original temporary regulatory speed limit is appropriate.
7. Makes recommendation to the Region Director regarding a 10-calendar day extension or to request the issuance of a TEO to cover a longer period.

## Procedures

### Existing Work Zones

UDOT 06C-61.1

**Responsibility:** Region Director

8. Considers recommendation of Region Traffic Engineer and, if appropriate, approves request for a 10-calendar day extension or transmits a request for a TEO to the Division of Traffic and Safety.

**Responsibility:** Traffic and Safety Division

9. For justifiable requests, issues a TEO for a temporary regulatory speed limit within 7-calendar days of receiving said request.

## **Procedures**

### **Traffic Control Plan Development**

**UDOT 06C-61.2**

**Responsibility:** Project Design Engineer

#### **Actions**

1. In consultation with the Region Traffic Engineer, makes a determination that a temporary regulatory speed limit is appropriate, all alternatives including positive protection have been considered, and the temporary speed limit is necessary for a project in design.

**Responsibility:** Region Traffic Engineer

2. Reviews traffic control plan submitted by contractor.
3. Considers recommendation and submits request to the Region Director with comments.

**Responsibility:** Region Director

4. Considers recommendation of Region Traffic Engineer and transmits a request for a TEO to the Division of Traffic and Safety.

**Responsibility:** Traffic and Safety Division

5. Approves requests and issues a TEO for a temporary regulatory speed limit within 7-calendar days of receiving said request.